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## The Advocate, January 18, 2007

Minnesota State University Moorhead

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# The ADVOCATE

An award-winning newspaper published weekly for the Minnesota State University Moorhead community

## Bookstore a campus business

### Textbooks account for 76 percent of all sales

By ANN TIEGS  
Staff Writer

All profits and proceeds from the MSUM Bookstore stay within the university.

The MSUM Bookstore's net profit, totaling \$150,000 for the 2005-2006 academic year, was put into a reserve fund and is used to pay for inventory.

The store is a business owned

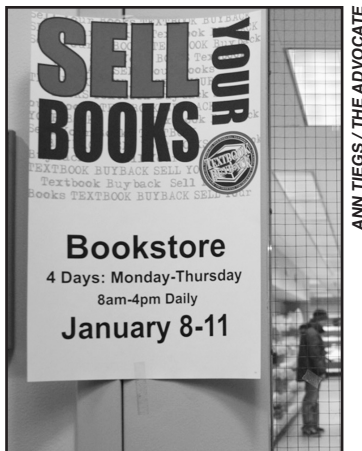
and operated by the university, according to Kim Samson, bookstore director, and has income from sales used to pay for inventory and operating expenses. Operating expenses include: payroll, freight, credit card fees, university payment (for utilities), advertising and student rebates.

Payroll, 65 percent of the total operating expenses, is the largest operating expense.

This is similar to the university's budget. There are eight full-time employees and 20 to 30 student employees.

Advertising costs for the store are about \$11,000 per year. One of the biggest expenses is bags. Donations to various student groups on campus are included in advertising expense.

**PROFITS, BACK PAGE**



## Guesswork

### Is the Wellness Center making students pay an arm, a leg or more?

By LEE MORRIS  
Editor

Students will have paid \$3.2 million by the end of the 2007-2008 academic year for a Wellness Center that is expected to begin construction this summer.

Students will also pay off a long-term \$6.5 million loan from Minnesota State Colleges and Universities for the project, said David Crockett, vice president of administrative affairs.

Crockett said another \$5.4 million is the target goal for private contributions for the facility, which should have a net cost of \$12.4 million. The total amount does not include the MnSCU debt payments, which the student fee will

fund after the building is built, Crockett said.

The fee that students pay for the health structure has gone up from \$50 a semester the first time it was billed to students in the 2004-2005 academic year to \$65 a semester now.

That fee will rise to \$75 for the 2008-2009 academic year, \$80 in 2010-2011 and rises incrementally \$4 every three years after that.

The university's student senate passed the fee increases, which were designed to automatically rise, at the end of the 2002-2003 academic year; since then, the student fee has also gone toward funding the current wellness facility at the Higher Education Center, on the corner of 14th Street and 12th Avenue South.

The current center, along with fees paid to the architect firm Hastings and Chivetta for the new Wellness Center, have cost about \$1 million, also coming from student fees.

"The current temporary facility is sort of a great opportu-



Senior Mark Vogel works out in the current Wellness Center, a temporary facility being used till the permanent structure is built.

nity that occurred that allowed today's students that are paying a fee to have something directly benefiting them as a result," said Warren Wiese, vice president of student affairs.

Crockett said the MnSCU

revenue bonds will be issued this spring to start paying for construction. The first payment is already set aside at a cost of about \$714,000.

**FEES, BACK PAGE**

**A student who started here in 2004 and graduates in 2008 will pay \$245 for a wellness facility they will never get to use.**



Cecilia Mafla-Bustamante, languages professor, is friends with the newly elected president of Ecuador, Rafael Correa. A picture she took of Correa in her house (lower left) showed up in the October edition of the Ecuadorian magazine "Vistazo." Mafla-Bustamante went to Correa's inauguration on Monday.

## Presidential pal

### In Ecuador, professor's friend wins office

By LEE MORRIS  
Editor

The woman, positioning her chin and jaw between her right forefinger and thumb, tells of one Rafael Correa, the president of Ecuador.

"He's a very determined, very brave man," she says and curls her right hand into a fist at the word "determined." This woman, Cecilia Mafla-Bustamante, shared an office with him at Universidad San Francisco de Quito, where 14 years ago they taught and became friends.

"If he feels that somebody is taking advantage of somebody else," she says with an accent with inflections of her native country, "or not doing what is proper or what is honest, he is not afraid to tell them."

The voice of this MSUM languages professor, vibrant and exuberant, fills her office with memories of Correa, who on Monday was inaugurated into office in the Spanish-speaking country that in 2000 saw a coup d'état and has seen past presidents exiled.

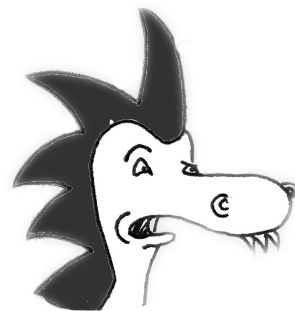
**FRIEND, BACK PAGE**



### Talking about King

Speaker Lissa Jones talks about the man who changed the country

**FEATURES, PAGE 3**



### Wellness confusion

Health facility is a good idea; the money and fees, not so much

**OPINION, PAGE 4**



### Hair! And art, too

Art exhibit features two artists and their drawings, sculptures in dual mediums

**A&E, PAGE 6**



### Strike a pose

Dance team stretches its legs as it preps for national competition

**SPORTS, PAGE 8**



# Security Report

1.07—1.15

- 1.07 Burglary in Dahl
- 1.09 Fire alarm in MacLean
- 1.09 Lost item in King
- 1.11 Medical response to Lommen
- 1.11 Theft of personal property in the CMU
- 1.12 Drug offenses in Dahl
- 1.12 Possible drug offense in Dahl
- 1.13 Burglar alarm in Frick
- 1.15 Drug offenses in South

**Early Education Center has openings**

The Early Education Center has openings for children three-and-a-half to six years of age for spring semester 2007. For more information, please contact the director at (218) 477-2214.

**Author to give presentation**

The College of Education and Human Services and the Comstock Visiting Scholar Series present Julie Landsman, author of “A White Teacher Talks About Race,” at 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. on Feb. 15 in the CMU. Both presentations are free and open to the public.

If you need disability-related accommodations, please call (218) 477-2096 for more information.

## The ADVOCATE

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The Advocate is published weekly during the academic year, except during final examination and vacation periods. Opinions expressed in The Advocate are not necessarily those of the college administration, faculty or student body.

The Advocate encourages letters to the editor and your turn submissions. They should be typed and must include the writer's name, signature, address, phone number, year in school or occupation and any affiliations. Letters are due by 5 p.m. Monday and can be sent to MSUM Box 130, dropped off at The Advocate office in CMU Room 110 or e-mailed to us at [advocate@mnstate.edu](mailto:advocate@mnstate.edu). The Advocate reserves the right to edit letters and refuse publication of letters omitting requested information. It does not guarantee the publication of any letter.

“Dressed up like frickin’ Reagan.”

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The Advocate is always looking for talented writers, photographers, columnists and illustrators. Meetings are held at 4:30 p.m. every Monday in CMU 110.

Contact the editor for more information or come to the staff meetings.

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**Corps of Engineers workshop today**

“Doing Business with The Corps of Engineers,” a workshop sponsored by MSUM’s Small Business Development Center and the Procurement Technical Assistance Center, will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 18 at the AmericInn Lodge and Event Center in Moorhead.

Presenting the information will be Tom Koopmeiners, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Deputy for Small Business.

Topics will range from upcoming projects and understanding the general and technical specifications to pre-bid specifications and working with subcontractors.

The cost is \$40, which includes course materials, refreshments and lunch. Pre-registration online is required for a reserved spot by Monday.

**Scholarships now available online**

The office of scholarship and financial aid announces upper-class scholarships for the 2007-2008 academic year.

Students must be currently enrolled at MSUM, be pursuing their first undergraduate degree, have completed at least 12 MSUM credits by fall 2006, have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher and enroll in a minimum of 12 credit hours per subsequent semester.

One faculty recommendation is needed, along with the application and required essay.

Students who will graduate in spring or summer 2007 and students who receive continuing MSUM scholarships for 2007-2008 are ineligible to apply.

Applications are available online at [www.mnstate.edu/finaid/upperscholar.htm](http://www.mnstate.edu/finaid/upperscholar.htm). The deadline to apply is Feb. 1.

**Course helps students transition**

The senior year experience class is a half-semester, one-credit class meeting on Monday evenings from 6 to 8:30 p.m. starting Monday.

The senior year experience course is intended to address issues specific to an MSUM senior’s transition from student to professional.

The senior year experience course consists of the following eight sessions: successful transition into the real world, ethics in the workplace, personal finance, nutrition and wellness, civic engagement, careers, dress for success and social and dining etiquette, dinner included. Students may register under PDEV 310—senior year experience.

Please register soon, as it will fill quickly. If you have any questions, please contact Angela Boser at (218) 477-2120 or [boseran@mnstate.edu](mailto:boseran@mnstate.edu).

**Student proposals due Jan. 29**

The college of social and natural sciences invites proposals for funding to support student research. Members of the student advisory board will review applications and make the final determination of grant recipients.

Up to \$3,000 will be available for applicants. Proposals not funded in the fall 2006 review can be revised and submitted again for this call. The deadline for this round of proposals is Jan. 29.

Information about the application process is available from departments in the college or from the dean’s office.

**Paris trip requires confirmations**

The office of international programs extends a welcome back to all students and faculty and announces the unforgettable spring break trip to Paris, March 9 through 18. This fully guided excursion is open to all students, faculty and community members. Interested students, who have not yet signed up, need to turn in their applications immediately in order to reserve plane tickets and accommodations. The next informational meeting is at 4 p.m. today (Thursday) in CMU 207.

Students who would like more information can stop by the office of international programs or visit [www.mnstate.edu/intl/discoveringparis.cfm](http://www.mnstate.edu/intl/discoveringparis.cfm).

**MacLean offices relocated**

MacLean’s first floor is now closed due to a renovation project. The MacLean northeast ramp entrance from the campus mall area may be used for access to MacLean room 181 and the Bookstore and buildings farther south and east. Handicapped access is also available from Frick’s east side by Grier Hall and through King Hall or Owens Hall on the south side.

Any other special accommodations needed for access to rooms cut off by the renovation process should be handled through your professor’s academic department.

Also note the following relocations:

MA 269: Math room set up and materials have been relocated to MA 181.

MA 268: President’s Conference Room is offline until further notice.

MA 169: Computer lab has been moved to Library 202.

MA 171: The Women’s Center is temporarily closed. In the meantime, CMU 218 has been scheduled for Women’s Center gatherings from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Any questions about scheduling should be addressed to director Anita Bender at (218) 477-4973.



JEN HILBRANDS / THE ADVOCATE

**This emergency/information station, located west of Ballard Hall, is the first of several stations that will be placed all over campus.**

**Conference accepts applications**

The purpose of the Student Academic Conference is to showcase the work and talent of MSUM students through presentations, posters and creative works at a one-day conference held annually in the CMU.

Please encourage students who are enrolled in the current academic year to submit presentation applications.

Applications are due Feb. 9 and can be found online at [www.mnstate.edu/acadconf](http://www.mnstate.edu/acadconf). This year’s conference date is April 11.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Conteh at (218) 477-4009 or [conteh@mnstate.edu](mailto:conteh@mnstate.edu).

**Mass comm office relocates**

The main office of mass communications has been relocated to the house at 803 11th Street South.

This includes Deb Hval, Mark Strand, Bill Hall and adjunct professors: Marv Bossart, Liz Conmy, Katherine Tweed, Gerri Stowman, Dave Howland and Anita Morgan. Other faculty have remained on Flora Frick Hall second floor.

Access to this area is the stairwell near the International Programs Office in Frick 151.

Requests for special needs for access to the house, or to Frick’s second floor for classes or office access should be directed to the mass communications department at (218) 477-2983.

**Holocaust survivor speaks at NDSU**

David Faber, survivor of eight Nazi concentration camps, nationally acclaimed speaker and author of “Because of Romek: A Holocaust Survivor’s Memoir” will speak in Fargo later this month.

Faber witnessed the Nazi murders of his parents, brother Romek, and five of his six sisters. When he was liberated in 1945 from Bergen-Belsen, he was 18 and weighed just 72 pounds.

Faber will speak to public school students and make three, free public appearances, from 7 to 9 p.m. on Jan. 24 and Jan. 26 and from 1 to 3 p.m. Jan 27. All lectures will be in NDSU’s Reineke Festival Hall.

Signed copies of Faber’s book will be available after the lecture. Call Shane Martin at (701) 446-3605 for more information.

**NSEP scholarship deadline is Jan. 26**

The National Security Education Program David L. Boren Scholarships provide opportunities to students studying in nontraditional sites (including Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America and the Caribbean).

Recipients may be awarded up to \$10,000 for each semester. Recipients are also required to provide service to a particular government agency for a specific amount of time.

The scholarship deadline is Jan. 26. For more information visit [www.mnstate.edu/intl](http://www.mnstate.edu/intl).



# Speaker celebrates King

Lissa Jones explores King's legacy and the implications of his work



SUBMITTED PHOTO



BOB ADELMAN

At 1 p.m. today (Thursday) in the CMU Ballroom, Lissa Jones (above, left) will deliver an address, "Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.: I Have a Dream, The 21st Century." (Above, right) King, accompanied by his children, speaks to potential voters about the sacrifices that were made to gain the black right to vote, 1966 in Camden, Ariz.

By ASHLEY TABORSKY

Staff Writer

On Jan. 15, 1929, a soon-to-be national hero was born. This hero was the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and he changed the way the United States of America viewed and treated minorities, making a great impact in his short 39 years.

His compelling speeches are, at the very least, familiar to most Americans. One of the greatest and most memorable moments in the civil rights movement occurred when more than 200,000 people marched on Washington, D.C. on Aug. 28, 1963.

Not only was the gathering of so many united people extraordinary, but that day Martin Luther King Jr. stood before the marchers and delivered his eloquent and inspiring "I Have a Dream" address.

At 1 p.m. today (Thursday) in the CMU Ballroom, Lissa Jones, executive director of African American Family Services in Minneapolis, will deliver an address, "Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.: I Have a Dream, The 21st Century."

As originally stated by King himself, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content

of their character."

Now, more than 40 years later, MSUM will honor King by hosting the energetic and talented Jones as she explores the legacy and implications of King's work.

Jones said she is excited about her upcoming appearance in Moorhead. "I would love to see the entire campus get involved. Change will take all of us, regardless of color, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or perspective.

"In the words of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., 'We are tied in an inescapable network of mutuality; what happens to one inevitably happens to the other.' I would be disappoint-

ed if the perception was that the message is focused solely on or for African Americans."

Like many others, Multicultural Affairs Coordinator Gus Claymore feels this presentation is something everyone will enjoy and should attend.

Claymore is working hard to promote the event, which, like Jones, he feels everyone can benefit from. "Come to celebrate Martin Luther King Day with us! We'll have a little reception with cake, and President Roland Barden will be present also. He'll help with the welcome.

"In the past, like last year, if students asked for the pre-

sentation time off and made arrangements with their professors, some were even given extra credit to attend. This is the first time that (Jones) has been in this area, so it's something new.

"She's someone who's pretty sharp and says what she feels should be said," Claymore said.

Jones will touch on several controversial topics of our nation today that King spoke of years ago.

"Many questions exist today around things like, 'What's up with African Americans and joblessness?' 'What's the deal with African American youth?' 'Why does it seem that African Americans can't unify to change conditions?'

"My focus will be on bringing the reality of African American history in the United States into the present. Many of the answers we seek lie in black and white, but are not documented as a part of the traditional educational system," Jones said.

"It is my hope that we can meet one another in the contradictions presented in our history that lead to myth and stereotype in the present ... the legacy of Dr. King.

"It is my belief that the better we understand one another, the more likely we are to be able to bridge the invisible barriers that divide us," Jones said.

The event is free and open to the public. Afterward, there will be a reception where students can enjoy cake and discuss the topic with Jones.



BRUCE DAVIDSON

A female protester is arrested in 1963 in Birmingham, Ala. Now, more than 40 years later, MSUM will honor King by hosting Jones.

Taborsky can be reached at ash\_tabby@hotmail.com.



## Advocate editorial board

Lee Morris  
Editor

Brittany Knudson  
Opinion Editor

### Wellness Center should be great, but what about the bottom line?

For a price tag that is only going to get bigger—now, in the next few years, forever—the Wellness Center is a bit spendy.

We're talking major, Donald Trumpish kind of money. Students will be repaying \$6.5 million in debt for a MnSCU loan years down the road. And we've already shoved more than \$3 million into this project. ("Shoved" in the sense that the university requires it in student fees.)

What's worse is that students are paying \$65 now, will pay \$75 and \$80 in the next few years, and after that the fee automatically rises. With all the maintenance costs the center will require, its employee salaries, future construction on the center itself and a surplus student fees are supposed to go into—there is no way the fee will ever stop rising.

So, if \$65 is good comparably to other wellness centers, you just wait till students are paying \$112 per semester, or some other unimaginable but soon-to-be-real cost.

Not to focus just too much on numbers themselves, but it's also a pain in the forehead getting these numbers from anyone in the administration.

"Um, hello? Can you tell me how much money students have paid for the Wellness Center?"

"Sure, just see this person. Or this person. And this person. Then, this person. Yeah, that should do it. They know the numbers."

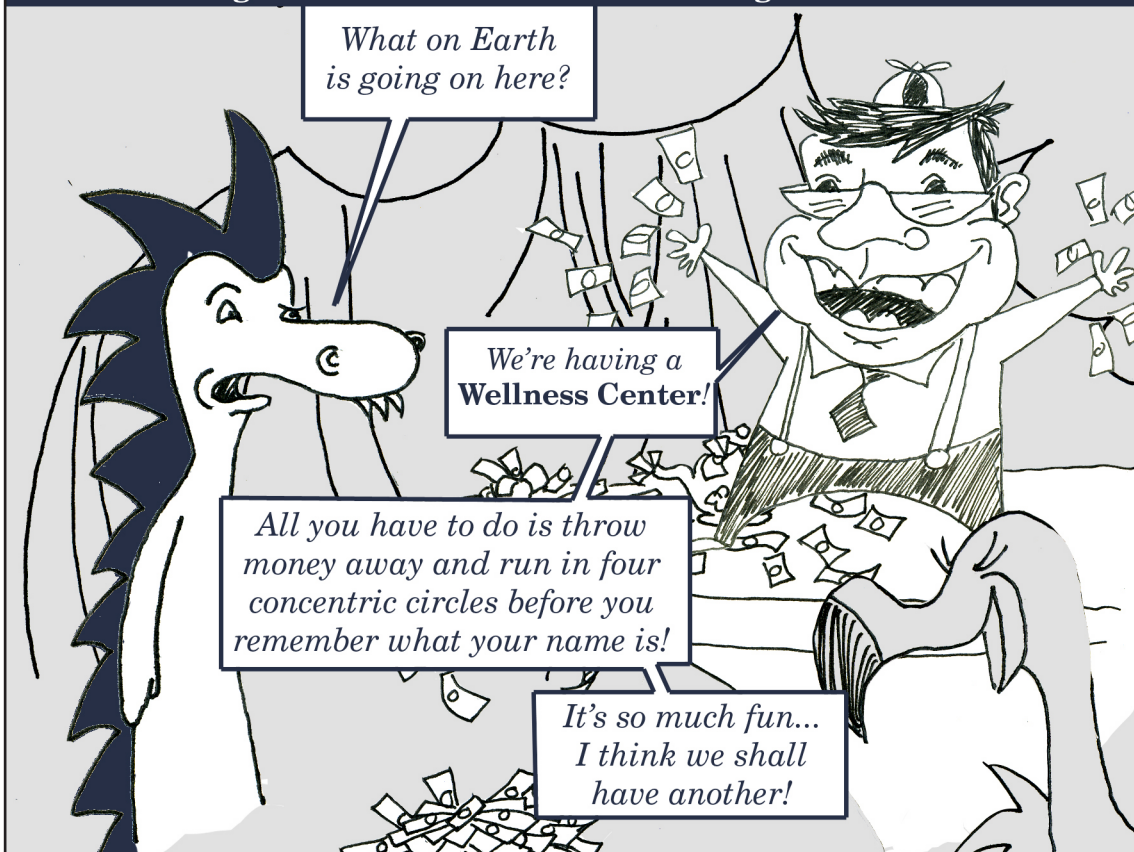
Or do they?

You know, these are kind of important numbers, and they should be pinned to the walls of everyone planning this project. It's not like it's top-secret government information we're dealing with here.

All in all, the Wellness Center should be a really nice facility. With all this money and bureaucracy, it couldn't be anything but.

The opinions expressed in The Advocate are not necessarily those of the college administration, faculty or student body. The Advocate encourages Letters to the Editor and Your Turn submissions. They should be typed and **must include the writer's name**, signature, address, phone number, year in school or occupation and any affiliations. Letters are due by 5 p.m. Monday and can be sent to MSUM Box 130, dropped off in The Advocate office or e-mailed to [advocate@mnstate.edu](mailto:advocate@mnstate.edu).

### The Continuing Adventures of Scorch in Flabbergastedland.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Choice not race-based Columnist too quick to label football coach Damon Tomeo's hiring as discrimination

Brandon K. Watson's article regarding MSUM's hiring of Damon Tomeo as head football coach in last week's The Advocate was a bunch of malarkey. And yes, I said

For those of you who didn't read it, Watson argued that Richard Wilson, a black coach at Minneapolis North High School, was

more qualified for the position. I didn't have a problem with this, until Watson gave his reasoning; "Tomeo was hired because he's white."

Watson is a bigot that just wants to pull the trigger on something miniscule and say that it's racism. Seems to be a common scapegoat.

Granted, Watson's article doesn't really hold that much

credibility anyway.

This was evident when he said—in the first paragraph mind you—that he wasn't much of a football fan.

I don't know how much merit we can put into this guy's opinion when he doesn't even know what's going on.

I, for example, am not the biggest wrestling fan. I don't really follow wrestling; I don't know that much about wrestling.

So if the MSUM wrestling team made some decision that at first glance seems odd—I probably won't question it because it's not really my place to do so. And in turn, they would probably disregard the argument as

ill-founded.

I'm not necessarily defending the hiring of Tomeo, but I think Watson's objection is just a worn-out, repetitious argument.

But, as seems to be the norm nowadays, he saw this as an opportunity to cry "prejudice."

This is just a small example of a growing problem in an oversensitive America. Too often something like this is viewed as "discrimination."

"I'm not necessarily defending the hiring of Tomeo, but I think Watson's objection is just a worn-out, repetitious argument."

**Tony Guttormson**  
MSUM sophomore

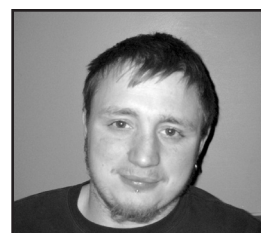
**Tony Guttormson,**  
MSUM sophomore

## How much did you pay for books? Were they worth it?



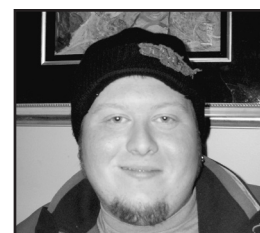
**Sarah Winters,**  
Freshman

"\$300. I don't use most of the books for my music industries classes."



**Greg Bunce II,**  
Senior

"\$370. It was worth it for my books; They are all method books for teaching elementary ed."



**Mike Roe,**  
Freshman

"(I paid) \$300 for five books. One of them was a little piece."



## Stressed-out bride-to-be seeks good advice

I'm engaged. On Dec. 23, Eric proposed on the frozen beach of Detroit Lake.

This wasn't a complete and utter shock to me, as we had been dating for more than two-and-a-half years and had gone ring-looking, not shopping—according to him—in November. Nonetheless, it was an exciting and happy moment for us.

After the initial shock of having a "fiancé," a deliciously obnoxious word if you choose to say it in a certain way, I realized that I had to start planning a wedding. Someone should have fired a shotgun in the air and screamed to let the games begin.

To those of you who are

**Samantha Kveno**  
*Columnist*



married now or are currently engaged and sanely planning a wedding as you go to school, I really must tip my hat. I have been in the engaged student category for a week, and I'm pulling my hair out.

I'm envisioning weekdays and nights filled with homework and anguish over upcoming projects, and weekends looking at endless details and prospective venues that lead me nowhere close to solutions. Added to that is the fact that everyone has an opinion

on how you should do everything.

What I want to know is: How did you do it? How did you maintain your grades, positive attitude and deal with the added pressure of planning, what for most of us, is the biggest day of our lives?

I'm lucky enough to have a lot of time to plan. You see, finally, after much drama and debate from the parents on each side, we nailed down a wedding date that is now set in stone: Sept. 13, 2008. I have a year and eight months to do the thousands of things that engaged people must do to prepare for their wedding day, and I'm also lucky enough to have a fiancé who is helpful

and will be involved in the planning.

I've spoken to a few married students already about the wedding planning process, one of whom impressed me incredibly. She said that last year she got engaged over Christmas break and was married the following October. I asked her how on earth she accomplished that, and she just said that she did a lot of the preparation while still on Christmas break, and then the rest when she could. I don't think I could ever be that organized. My room is a mess, my desk is a mess, and there is a good chance that the wedding plan-

ner will turn into a mess of scribbles and erasures as well.

To all of you out there who have gone through this, I am really asking for advice. I know I have a lot of time, but cannot help feeling overwhelmed already at the sheer magnitude

of big, small and often last-minute details that a wedding will entail. E-mail me, and let me know what worked, what didn't, who to listen to, and who to tell to just go to hell. Mokay? Thank you!

“Someone should have fired a shotgun in the air and screamed to let the games begin.”

Samantha Kveno

Are you a wedding planner?  
Email Kveno  
at kvenosa@mnstate.edu.

## Media wrongly points finger at video games

Since the release of Doom and Mortal Kombat in the early '90s, the issue of video game violence has entrenched itself in the conscience of the mainstream media. It's an issue that comes and goes through the media spotlight in cycles.

Oftentimes it comes up when people are struggling to find a scapegoat for a school shooting, or by opportunist politicians who want to make it look like they're taking a strong stance on something.

One man making headlines you may have heard of recently concerning video game violence is Miami attorney and notorious anti-game legislator Jack Thompson. He has attempted time and again to sue several different video game manufacturers and retailers with varying amounts of success for selling violent video games to under-



**Ben Sailer**  
*Columnist*

aged kids.

However, a lot of the claims Thompson tries to make are completely ridiculous. In a 2005 interview with CBS News, he stated that the U.S. Army uses video games such as Full Spectrum Warrior to suppress soldiers' "inhibition to kill" when, in fact, the Army itself has said it uses video games to teach teamwork skills. He also accuses the video game industry of selling "murder simulators" to children.

Now, I think we can all agree that violent entertainment of any kind shouldn't be sold to minors. However, video games have rating labels on

them and it isn't the publisher's fault if a parent is negligent to read those labels or pay attention to what their children are playing.

It's a common misconception that violent video games are somehow intended for children. Like R-rated movies, they aren't. I'm tired of seeing people pinning the blame for youth violence on video games. What troubles me most specifically is whenever a high-profile school shooting occurs, much of the blame is pointed toward video games and other violent media.

Thompson even once claimed that the assailants in all school shootings are video gamers. Look, the reason kids shoot up

their schools is because they are bullied. They are lonely outcasts whose lives are made into a living hell by their tormentors at school.

The types of kids that commit such crimes are likely to be video gamers because they are nerds and freaks that fit the stereotypical profile of a video gamer. Does this mean that video games led them to violence? No. The fact that kids like Dylan Klebold, one of the killers in the Columbine massacre, were bullied does not justify the atrocities they enacted on their classmates. However, the reality is that's why they lashed out.

It has nothing to do with the games they played or the music they listened to. The blame for their actions needs to be placed not only upon

the killers themselves, but those who allowed them to be picked on, and their parents for not taking enough of an interest in their kids to know what they were up to.

Millions of people play violent games like Grand Theft Auto. They span a wide range of demographics and for the most part are well-adjusted individuals. However, you never hear about a football player or a prom king shooting up his school. Such stories always involve a lonely, tormented outcast. Coincidence?

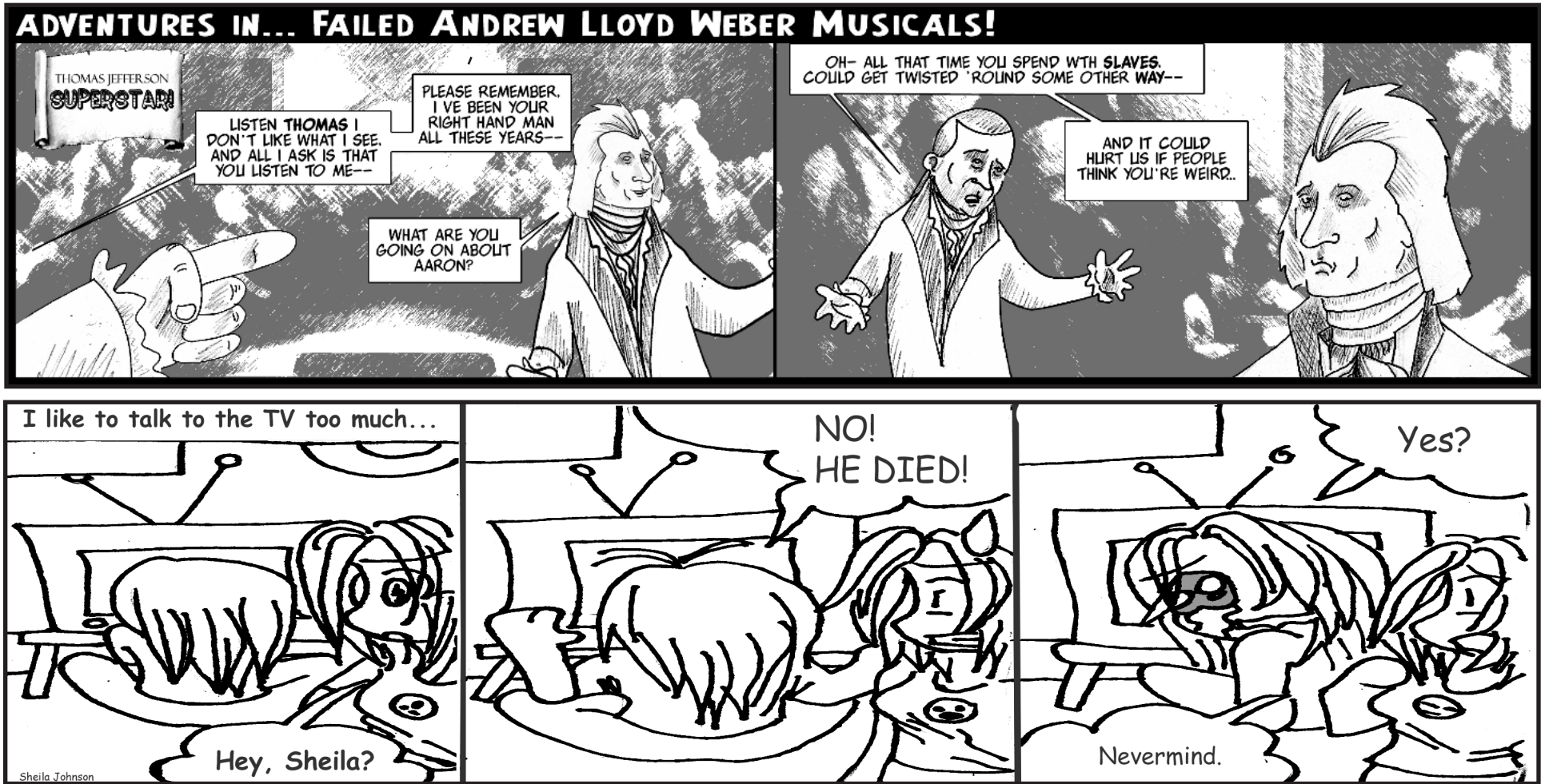
Hardly, and it's sad so many Americans are unable to make such an obvious connection.

The more we blame games for school shootings, the further away we push ourselves from a solution to prevent them.

“They are lonely outcasts whose lives are made into a living hell by their tormentors at school.”

Ben Sailer

Do you agree with Thompson?  
E-mail Sailer  
at sailerbe@mnstate.edu.





# Two artists are better than one

Sculptor and MSUM alumna display work in duo exhibit through Jan. 31

By KELLIE MEEHLHAUSE

A&E Editor

It has been said that two heads are better than one. So what could be more logical, enjoyable and educational than two artists instead of

one?

From now through Jan. 31, the Roland Dille Art Gallery will do just that with a two-person exhibit featuring sculptures by Cedar Marie and drawings by Erin Holscher Almazan.

A reception is scheduled from

4 to 6 p.m. today (Thursday), followed by a public presentation by both artists. The event is free and open to the public.

## Mind, body, hair

Marie is a lecturer at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design.

She received her MFA in sculpture from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. There she was also a recipient of a David and Edith Sinaiko Frank Graduate Fellowship for a Woman in the Arts as well as an Advance Opportunity

Fellowship.

She submitted her work to MSUM after seeing a submissions call posted on the College Art Association's Web site. Originally from Minnesota, she wrote a proposal, sent it in and then completely forgot about it.

"Forgetting about the proposals afterwards is kind of my strategy for creating surprise when an institution or gallery says, 'We'd love for you to show your work here,'" Marie said.

Her current interest and

the focus of her series, "The Plot," displayed at MSUM is the "cultural and emotional understanding of objects and how they influence our daily lives."

To do this, she combines handcrafted objects with mass-produced or found objects into sculptural narratives. For example, one of her sculptures on display involves hair tumbling from the frame of a mirror.

**GALLERY, PAGE 7**



PHOTOS BY GREG LOCNIKAR / THE ADVOCATE

A sculpture exploring physicality by lecturer Cedar Marie now displayed in the Roland Dille Center for the Arts gallery.



Brandon Laplante examines the intricacies of a drawing by MSUM alumna Erin Holscher Almazan on display now in the Roland Dille Center for the Arts.

## Artsy Alternatives

### Artist Reception

A reception will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. today (Thursday) at Nicole's Fine Pastry in Fargo for Minda Ringdahl. Ringdahl is among the artists featured in the "A Woman's Perspective on Mind, Body, Spirit" exhibit at the Hjemkomst Center.

### Theatre

The Tin Roof Theatre Company presents a production of Sam Shepard's Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Buried Child" at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 18-20 and 25-27 at the Main Avenue Theatre in Fargo. Admission is \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and \$10 for seniors on Thursday nights only. For more information call (701) 306-5843.

### Music Concert

As a part of its Masterworks series, the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony presents an evening of Gabrieli, Sanford, Shostakovich, Bloch, and Respighi at 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday in NDSU's Festival Concert Hall. Admission is \$20 to \$38, depending on seating. For more information call (218) 233-8397.

### CD release

Local musician Jack Schauer publicly debuts "Mediterranean Eyes," his latest CD featuring 15 original contemporary folk rock songs at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the Ristreto Coffee & Tea in Fargo.

### Reading

From 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday in the Spirit Room, artists, writers and performers give readings in conjunction with the Heritage Hjemkomst Interpretive Center's "A Woman's Perspective on Mind, Body, Spirit."

### Lecture

Student Karl Leonard will discuss a geology course taught on San Salvador Island in the Bahamas at 9 a.m. Tuesday in Bridges 268.

### Dance Lessons

From 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. Tuesday at The Avalon in Fargo, a swing dance lesson will be offered followed by open dancing. Admission is \$6 per person or \$4 with a student ID. No partner or prior sign-up is required.

## Red Weather calls for submissions

### Advocate staff reports

Red Weather, MSUM's campus literary magazine, is considering submissions of short fiction, creative nonfiction, personal essays, drama, poetry and graphics for its spring 2007 issue.

Current MSUM undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, staff and alumni are invited to submit their best work.

For prose, entrants can submit up to two short stories, creative nonfiction, or personal essays at a 3500-word limit per piece. They can submit up to three flash fiction pieces with a 500-word limit per piece. Plays are also limited to two per entrant.

Students and staff are asked to please review and spell check their work before submitting. All hard copy submissions should be typed, double-spaced and on one side of paper only.

Red Weather will edit prose using standard spelling and punctuation usage, unless edi-

tors are notified to do otherwise.

For poetry, entrants can submit up to five poems in any style. No poem should be more than two pages in length.

Poetry submissions will be printed as submitted.

For graphics, entrants can submit up to five original black and white photos or graphics and artwork.

First places prizes of \$25 will be awarded to best short story and the best poem by an undergraduate, and the best short story and poem by a graduate student.

All entries are by blind submission: author's name cannot appear on the manuscript. Send entries formatted as a .doc word document. Include your name, address and phone number in the body of the e-mail. Write "fiction," "poetry," "drama," "nonfiction" or "graphic" in the header. E-mail them to [rweather@mnstate.edu](mailto:rweather@mnstate.edu).

The deadline for submissions is Feb. 2.



# MSUM student unexpectedly wins national art award

By BEN SAILER

Staff Writer

MSUM senior and sculpture major Sam Isham-Schopf was recently awarded a silver medal in a competition held by the college art magazine Creative Quarterly.

His sculptures can be seen in issue six, the latest issue, of the magazine. The four categories open in the competition included design, illustration, photography and fine arts.

The competition was open to students nationwide, with winners residing all across the country.

"I was competing in the fine arts category, competing against sculptors, painters, digital media artists and others," Isham-Schopf said.

Isham-Schopf decided to enter the competition after receiving an e-mail from professor Don Clark informing him about the competition.

"I pretty much had everything together already, so I just put my submissions packet together," Isham-Schopf said.

The submissions packet consisted of six images of his work, his résumé and a submission fee. He was later surprised to discover he had won.

"I had pretty much forgotten about the competition, assumed that I had not won, and so put it out of my mind," Isham-Schopf said. "I was checking my e-mail while at work and I had this e-mail telling me that I was one of the 'medal winners in this issue's competition.'"

Once he saw his name listed on Creative Quarterly's Web site as the silver medal winner in his category, he was ecstatic.

"I got really excited, then proceeded to e-mail all my friends and family to let them know," Isham-Schopf said.

He has long had an interest in art, beginning with color crayons when he was a child. In junior high and high school, he began to focus on drawing and carried a sketchbook around.

Later he began to work with manipulating physical objects as well as experimenting with cutting, pasting and arranging different things together.

"I never considered myself as a sculptor until my sophomore year of college. I still paint and draw and would define myself as an artist primarily and as a sculptor more specifically," Isham-Schopf said.

His work focuses on the urban environment, an influence that stems from his history as a graffiti artist in the city.

"I wasn't any kind of great graffiti artist or anything," Isham-Schopf said. "I was just some middle-class freak from the suburbs trying to make the strangest, most perplexing graffiti I could think of. So, the imagery comes from my time spent on the railroad

tracks, at bus stops, in the alleyways, under bridges and behind or on top of industrial buildings."

Initially upon coming to college, he wanted to be an illustrator. When he heard MSUM was phasing out their illustration program he was interested in, he was unsure of which emphasis he wanted to pursue.

He credits professor Chris Walla for pointing in the direction of becoming a sculptor, saying, "Without him I would

probably have become completely disillusioned with my college education."

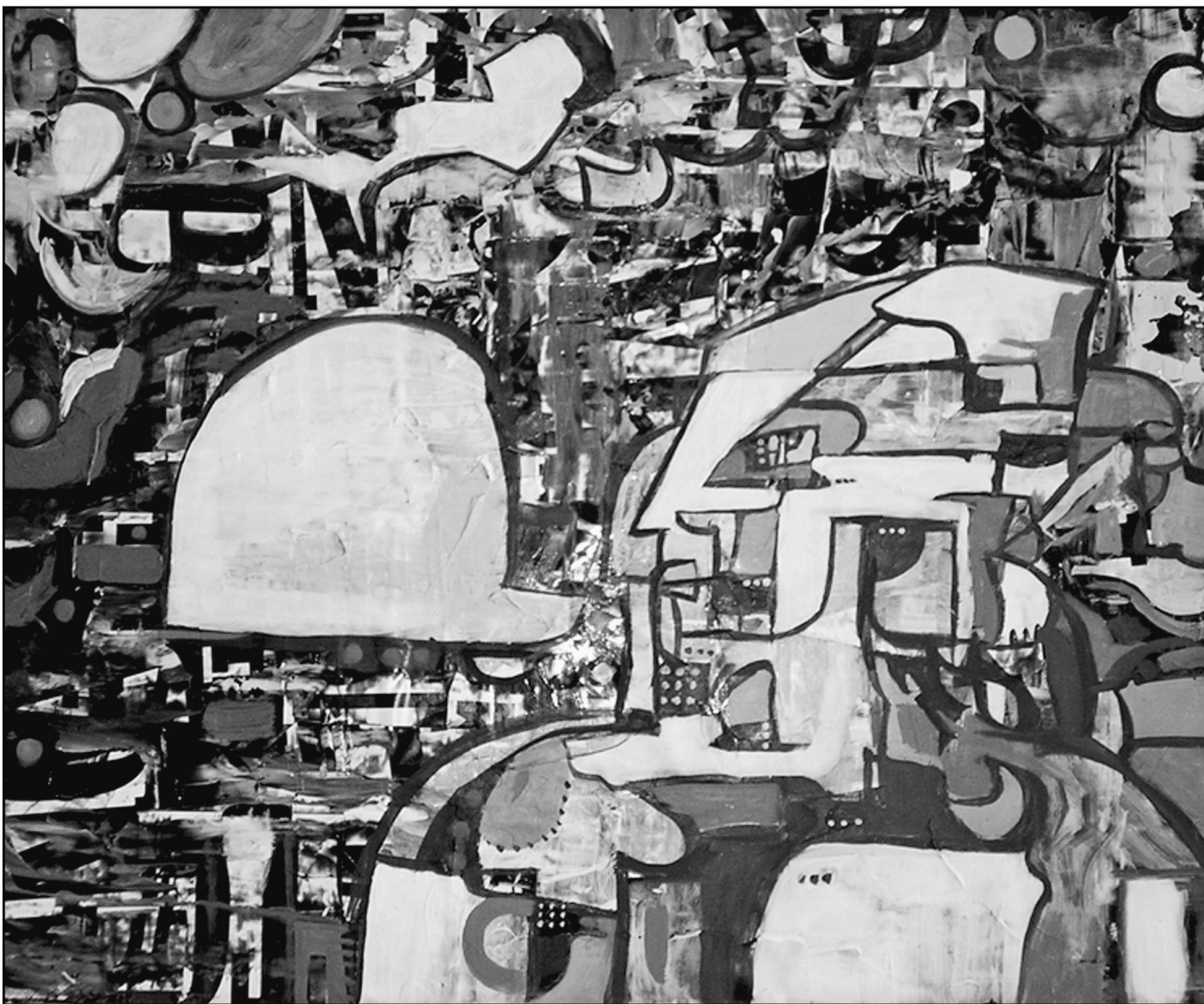
Isham-Schopf took the professor's introduction to sculpture class and "sort of fell in love with professor Walla's teaching style and enthusiasm about the students and their ideas."

He then discovered his love for sculpting after attempting to hollow out some cement filled cinderblocks with a large power tool.

"I had no idea if I could do

this or not, but when I asked the extraordinary shop master Ken Brown what to do, he handed me a tool called a pneumatic hammer drill, which is probably the most masculine tool ever invented. It is a two handed beast that drills and hammers at the same time with incredible force," Isham-Schopf said. "I decimated those cinderblocks. It was then that I knew that sculpture was my thing."

Sailer can be reached at [sailerbe@mnstate.edu](mailto:sailerbe@mnstate.edu).



This is a painting by art student Sam Isham-Schopf titled "Bad Vocabulary #1." His sculptures recently won an award from the Creative Quarterly, an art magazine.

## GALLERY, FROM PAGE 6

In many of her projects, she says, she uses hair in combination with steel, wood and glass to explore her understanding of physicality.

"My experience of inhabiting a body and interacting with other bodies influences my art, yet bodies are rarely directly present in my work. More often, I imply their presence by revealing the interdependent relationships between people and things," Marie said.

"The Plot" exhibition is part of what she describes as an ongoing and extensive study of the displacement of the human body in relationship to physical objects.

According to Marie, the exploration is one of her favorite parts of sculpting because it allows her to always refine her skills while learning about matters outside of art. For two previous projects, she studied entomology and medicine, and specifically for the "hair bales" presented in this show she researched farming.

Thus, art to Marie is not just about making something pretty to look at, but a way of interpreting her understanding of the world we live in.

"It's not just about making an object, it's also about turning that object's meaning inside out, collapsing the usual and known and seeing what becomes of that," Marie said.

To anyone who wants to become an artist, Marie advises patience and lots of it. She also encourages them to aim for something that has never been seen or done before and "hit it!"

## Thanks for the memories

An MSUM alumna, Almazan teaches art at the University of Dayton in Ohio. She says that this exhibit gives people a chance to see how much her artwork has changed since her senior exhibition in 2000.

"I had submitted my work to a call for entries by the gallery and was excited at the prospect of having my work reviewed and accepted by MSUM," Almazan said.

Her series on display, which is titled "Vignette Reliquaries," also changed from beginning to end.

Originally, it was supposed to be a response to a trip to Belgium and England in fall 2003. She traveled by herself, and upon returning to Rochester, N.Y., worked four jobs to make ends meet while also attending graduate school. As memorable as the time was, she says it was the year after graduate school that proved to be the series' main inspiration.

"It was a year marked by loss and change, challenges and rewards. I was living a rather bohemian lifestyle that, in retrospect, was kind of romantic and very free. I was poor, but I had wonderful friends who were also in the arts and we supported each other. When we all parted ways in 2004, the drawings continued as a response to the changes that followed," Almazan said.

Even though she didn't decide to make art a career until she attended MSUM, Almazan describes her craft

as her first love, particularly because of its freedom. Once an artist lets go of any inhibitions, there are no ends to what he or she can accomplish.

"I have to do something that relates to my work nearly every day, whether it is sketching or organizing slides to submit to a gallery. There are days when I walk into my studio and think, 'I can't do this today.'"

"But, if I can just sit down for half-an-hour and do anything to make some progress, I will gradually get to the point where I can hardly wait to get into the studio again," Almazan said.

## And two will meet

At the reception today (Thursday), Marie and Almazan will meet for the first time. Despite having no prior introduction, each expressed an enthusiasm for meeting her exhibit partner and an appreciation for her work.

"I cannot express too much of an opinion about the work, as I have yet to see it in person, but in looking at her work

on the Internet, I can say that I am very enthusiastic about exhibiting with her. I think that there will be some fascinating parallels between her work and my own," Almazan said.

Almazan and Marie also agree that students should take advantage of the educational opportunities this exhibit offers.

Almazan said artwork is intended to challenge and demand interpretations from its viewers. Anything that encourages the viewer to ask questions or contemplate what is in front of them is worth the time spent.

"Everyone will bring something different to the viewing of the exhibit because we all come from different places. How wonderful!" Marie said.

Gallery hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, or by special arrangement.

Meehlhouse can be reached at [meehlhke@mnstate.edu](mailto:meehlhke@mnstate.edu).



## DANCE

# Ninth place finish ... and all that jazz



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Dragon dance team is an exciting and competitive collegiate dance squad that performs at MSUM athletic events, pep rallies, university and community events, as well as at a number of competitions. The members of the team are well respected on campus as student athletes striving to support the athletic program.

By ROBYN ROHDE

Sports Editor

Months of practice, including a 6 a.m. wake-up call for more than a week, paid off for nine women on the MSUM dance team as they placed ninth at the United Dance Association National Competition on Monday in Orlando.

They will likely be shown on ESPN2 with a viewing schedule still to be determined.

Last year the team placed 11th in the five-day competition and second at the Spirit of America Competition, which included 16 of the top college dance teams in the Midwest.

"After last year, our goal was to reach the top ten," said head coach Mikal Kenfield. "It's always a good thing to move up every year."

Dance styles vary by performance, but competition routines typically showcase a jazz routine with high difficulty levels.

Besides competitions, the team also performs at halftime of home games, pep rallies and other events with more

funky routines to keep the crowd involved.

They have one more competition this season with an exhibition performance at the NDADD State in Grand Forks, N.D., on Jan. 26 and 27.

Then, the team will take approximately a one-month break before hosting spring auditions for the 2007-2008 season, March 31 and April 14. You only need to attend one of these auditions. Please come dressed ready to dance.

There is no preregistration, but to help the coach estimate how large the group will be, it is suggested that you e-mail coach Kenfield and let her know when you plan on auditioning.

At the audition, you will be evaluated by a panel of judges on the following skills: chainnes turns, triple pirouette, jeté, side jeté, fouettés, kicks, back leap, extensions, splits and piqué turns. You will also learn a short routine that you will perform in small groups.

Rohde can be reached at rohdero@mnstate.edu.

## WRESTLING

# Nasty National Duels

## Tough competition leads to 0-2 finish

By LUKE HAGEN

Staff Writer

For the second straight year the Dragon wrestling team went 0-2 at the National Duels tournament in Fayette, Iowa. The Dragons did get some tough competition, as only the top 16 teams in the nation are invited to attend.

"You have to be pretty good just to make it to the tournament," head coach Keenan Spiess said.

The Dragons were up against the eventual winner of the tournament, Nebraska-Kearney in the first round Nebraska-Kearney won the match 44-0.

Not all of the Dragon starters wrestled in the match because Spiess wanted to get all the extra wrestlers he brought to the tournament at least one match.

This was the first time in Spiess's fourth season with MSUM that he had ever been shut out.

In the consolation round the Dragons matched up well against Mercyhurst University, a team from Erie, Pa. Going into the heavyweight match, MSUM was only down by two team points; a win in the match meant a team win.

Senior Joe Facchinetti put the match into double overtime but lost on some questionable officiating. The Dragons lost the duel, 18-13.

"There were a lot of things that didn't go our way in that match. It was a great duel, as close as two teams could get," Spiess said.

Tonight (Thursday) the Dragons will face Minnesota State-Mankato at Nemzek. Mankato placed fourth in the National Duels tournament

and should provide an excellent individual match-up at the 165-pound class.

Junior Andy Pickar, who Spiess feels is the second best wrestler in the nation, will wrestle the Dragons senior captain and reigning national champion, Nathan Baker.

"Up to this point, Baker hasn't been tested. He's handled everyone he's wrestled," Spiess said.

Baker, named the latest Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference's Wrestler of the Week, has another tough match when the Dragons wrestle Augsburg College next Tuesday at Nemzek. Marcus LeVasseur, Augsburg's 165-pound wrestler, has never been beaten at the college level.

The Dragons' duel meets against Mankato and Augsburg at 7 p.m. Both should be good competition, according to Spiess.

### MANKATO vs. MSUM

**When:** 7 p.m. today at Alex Nemzek Hall.

**What:** Reigning NCAA Division II champion, Dragon Nathan Baker takes on the second best wrestler in the nation.

Hagen can be reached at luke\_hagen@hotmail.com.



HEATHER GRUENHAGEN / ADVOCATE PHOTO EDITOR

Kyle Eckhoff placed eight in the 3,000 meter race at the Bison Sports Arena on Saturday. He led the Dragons in the event with a time of 9:06.75.

## KICK OFF

**Today:** Wrestling vs. Minnesota-Mankato 7 p.m.

**Friday:** MBB vs. Wayne State 8 p.m.  
WBB vs. Wayne State 6 p.m.

Swim at UW-Steven's Point Invitational 9:30 a.m.

**Saturday:** MBB vs. Southwest Minnesota State 8 p.m.  
WBB vs. Southwest Minnesota State 6 p.m.

Swim at UW-Steven's Point Invitational 9:30 a.m.

**Tuesday:** Wrestling vs. Augsburg 7 p.m.

**Wednesday:** Wrestling vs. Northern State 7 p.m.

**Jan. 26:** Swim at Minnesota Challenge 6 p.m.

**Jan. 27:** MBB at Concordia-St. Paul 8 p.m.  
WBB at Concordia-St. Paul 6 p.m.  
Wrestling at CMSU Duals 10 a.m.  
Swim at Minnesota Challenge

**Feb. 2:** MBB vs. Bemidji State 8 p.m.  
WBB vs. Bemidji State 6 p.m.

**Feb. 3:** MBB vs. Minnesota-Crookston 8 p.m.  
WBB vs. Minnesota-Crookston 6 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*Home games in BOLD



## SWIMMING AND DIVING

# Jipson qualifies for Nationals

## Pool record broken at last home meet of season

By KATIE DIIRO

Staff Writer

If you were caught walking by Nemzek on Saturday afternoon, you might have heard a noise coming from the swimming pool that rivaled that of a concert. You didn't miss out on a concert, but you did miss out on some amazing performances from the MSUM swimmers and divers.

The pool area was packed as the team finished their home season with a dual meet win against neighboring Concordia College with a final score of 191 to 86.

The energy level was extraordinary due to the performance of Samantha Jipson. This sophomore diver exhibited the skills necessary to land herself a spot in the 2007 National Competition in Buffalo, N.Y., in

March with her 265.5 score on the 3-meter diving board. This was one of Jipson's goals for the season, but she accomplished more than that.

Diving coach Lindsey Rorman said: "I knew Samantha's final score would be close to qualifying her for nationals, but I never even thought about breaking the pool and school record, which I think she wanted to do more than qualify."

Jipson is one of three divers for the team. Rorman has high hopes for fellow divers Kerin Hanson and Sarah Wilker to qualify for nationals as well. Currently, only 14 divers in the entire nation have qualified for the competition. To gain a spot is a tremendous honor that Jipson deserves with her passionate work ethic and winning attitude.

The swimmers were a big help to the divers over the weekend as they came up with cheer after cheer to support the divers.

Rorman noted: "It was really

great watching and judging diving because the energy was so high. The swimmers were great cheering and everything."

The swimmers' energy for diving carried over into their performances with some stunning finishes. Freshman Ann Gusewelle was within a half second of breaking the pool record.

Junior captain Barbie Brooks and senior Jenna Nace battled for admirable times in the rigorous 200 butterfly. Sophomore Lauren Baalman was close to a season best in the 200 freestyle, where she finished nearly

I knew Samantha's final score would be close to qualifying her for nationals, but I never even thought about breaking the pool and school record, which I think she wanted to do more than qualify.

**Lindsey Rorman**  
Diving coach

seven seconds ahead of competition. The home meet was not the solitary meet of the weekend, as the women traveled to Morris, Minn., the night prior and pulled off impressive performances both in the pool and on the diving boards leading to a 198-81 victory over the Cougars.

At this meet, Baalman narrowly missed the school record in the 200 individual medley, which consists of a 50 of the four strokes. Freshman Heather Harris broke the freshman record for MSUM in the 1,650, better known as the mile.

With wins at both meets, it would seem competition was on the minds of the women, but junior captain Danielle Lauderbaugh credits it to other reasons.

"We were having fun and kept positive attitudes. We have been training hard, but this meet wasn't about that. It was the last home meet for the seniors, so we kept it fun and didn't concern ourselves with the end score."

Senior captain Cindy Dokkebakken reflected: "It was a memorable meet. It was

full of energy and team spirit. It was a great way to sum up the last four years of my career swimming here."

Once again, the team set new standards and began a tradition of excellence that will continue to progress in coming years. The team travels to Stevens Point, Wis., this weekend for a difficult invitation with some of the leading teams in the Midwest.

This should bring out some needed competition for the girls who according to assistant coach Christina Wavrin, "Need to have some opposition for them to really start showing how talented they are and how much potential this team has."

Diirro can be reached at [katediirro@yahoo.com](mailto:katediirro@yahoo.com).



HEATHER GRUENHAGEN / ADVOCATE PHOTO EDITOR

MSUM's mens and womens teams will enter the Super Eight Invitational 1 p.m. Saturday at the Gillett Recreation Fitness Center in Bemidji, Minn.



ANGELA SCHNEIDER / THE ADVOCATE

Sophomore Sarah Wilker hopes to be the second Dragon diver to qualify for the National Championships after teammate Samantha Jipson not only qualified but broke the school and pool record on Saturday in the Dragon's defeat of backyard rivals Concordia College. Jipson was announced the North Central Conference Diver of the Week award on Monday.

# MSUM Athletic Director search in progress

## Offical committee has been put in place and consultant hired to assist

## Advocate staff reports

A timeline has been set and a search committee has been selected to recommend who should lead the Dragon athletic program. The process will move into high gear after the holiday semester break.

Betsy Alden of Alden & Associates has been hired by the university to serve as the consultant for the search. Her firm is experienced in select-

ing personnel for higher education institutions that compete in NCAA Division II.

A list of semifinalists will be selected by the end of January. The list will be reduced to finalists during February and they will be invited to the campus for interviews. The selection schedule calls for the appointment decision to be made by early March.

President Roland Barden has appointed Warren Wiese, vice

president for student affairs, to chair the search committee.

The other members are: Greg Peterson, Dragon Fire; Larry Scott, MSUAASF athletics representative; Dennis Aune, MSUAASF representative; Cindy Phillips, IFO (faculty association) representative; Benjamin Smith, IFO representative; Robin Abraham, AFSCME representative; John Haugo, MSUM Alumni Foundation representative;

Tammy Blake, women's volleyball head coach; Rollie Bullock, women's soccer head coach; Eric Roseen, Student Athletic Advisory Committee representative; Megan DaPisa, Student Athletic Advisory Committee representative; Kathleen Enz Finken, Dean of Arts & Humanities; Yvonne Condell (faculty emerita), community member; and Kerstin Kealy (alumna), community member.



**Sylvia Barnier**  
Interim Athletic Director

Surviving the position since the departure of Alfonso Scandrett Jr. in the spring of 2006.



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Help Wanted

Playmakers and The Venue are looking for qualified candidates for The 2007 Venue Dance Team. Candidates will have dance experience, life-of-the-party attitude, and enjoy working with others. The position includes independent modern freestyle dancing and some choreographed routines. Hours are Thursdays and some Fridays 9p-2a. This is a paid position. Please direct any questions about the position to Matt Perlick by phone at 701.306.2362 or email at matt.perlick@playmakersfargo.com

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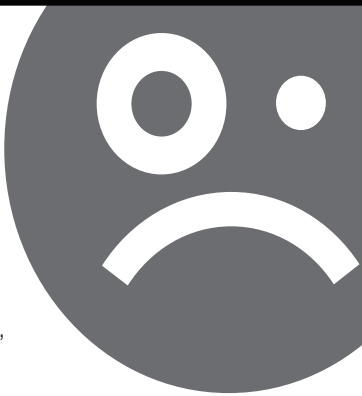
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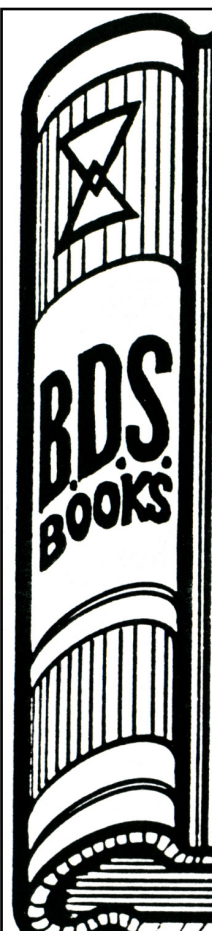
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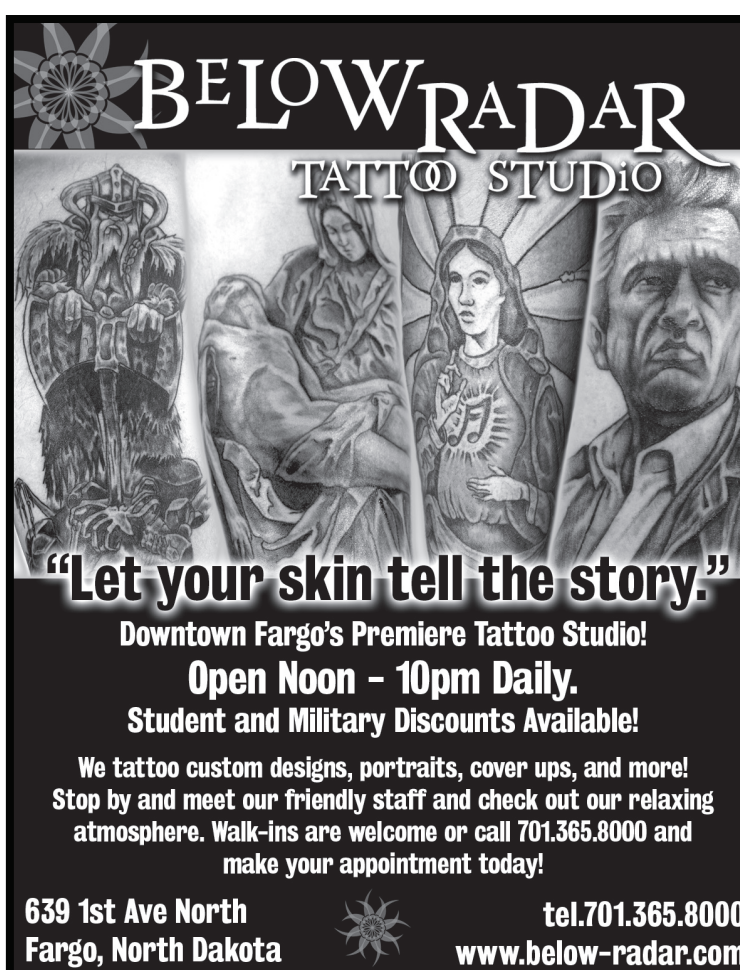
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## FRIEND, FROM FRONT — English class

Correa, an economics professor who would become the minister of finance in Ecuador, went to Mafla-Bustamante's class to learn English when they taught together.

She says Correa had known French because his wife is from Belgium, and he speaks French at home. And he had learned Quechua, the language in Ecuador the Incas spoke, spoken by about 30 percent of the people still, she says.

"He would come, and the students would kind of laugh because they had him as a professor. But in English he was a classmate, and some of them came from, you know, private schools, where they knew better English than Rafael."

## Special message

She usually summers in Ecuador, the country she calls home, where her daughter lives and where she would see Correa, where there has been governmental corruption, but this year she curtailed her trip and went with students to Mexico. She also lost the e-mail and phone number of her friend, who was elected in November with almost 60 percent of the vote.

She relates a conversation with her daughter: "I said, 'If you see Rafael Correa, could you tell him that I'm so happy for him?' and my daughter said, 'You know, he's not Rafael Correa. He's the president. It's not like

I'm going to run into him.' And so I said to her, 'But I know his human quality. I know that if he saw me in a whole group of people, he'd give me a hug.'"

About a week-and-a-half ago, Correa left a message for Mafla-Bustamante, wishing her "De Saluda! Feliz año! Happy New Year," and left his number. When she got over her excitement, she called her friend that night, who invited her to his inauguration.

## Close to home

It's funny, she says, about when she started working as a professor here in 2002.

"I was telling him that I got a job in Moorhead, and I said, 'Moorhead is a little town.' He goes, 'Moorhead!' And I said, 'Do you know?' He goes, 'Yeah! I was there,' and I said,

"How come?' He said, 'I went to Concordia for an interview.' I said, 'Are you kidding me?' It was like, you know, our paths have been kind of parallel."

**Cecilia Mafla-Bustamante**  
Languages professor  
Speaking about Rafael Correa, Ecuadorian president

She says Correa declined on Concordia College's offer for an economics teaching position because the university in Ecuador offered him the same amount, so it was convenient to go back.

## Political problems

According to online sources, Correa is a friend of Hugo

Chávez, the Venezuelan president, and wants to rewrite the Ecuadorian constitution. Along with Mafla-Bustamante, Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was at Correa's Monday inauguration.

"The people are politically involved," says Mafla-Bustamante about the situation in Ecuador. "Here, there is some, but there is no comparison. You know, I mean the people, we have the power to overthrow the government."

In Ecuador there are many parties, in the high teens, compared to two in the U.S., which do not have that much of a striking difference, says Mafla-Bustamante, who has lived in America for 17 years altogether and first came in 1969 as a high school exchange student.

"Back in, I think 1997 or 1998, we had a President Bucaram, and we knew that he was being corrupt in government,"

she says. "I, myself, who at the time was like 47-years-old, went out to strike and to protest and to march in the streets, and he was kicked out. He had to flee to Panama, where he still now is in political exile."

She says a lot of the politicians in Ecuador are getting paid a lot of money, and that's



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Rafael Correa, shown here on Monday at his inauguration in Quito, Ecuador, is the new president of the country. He once applied for an economics teaching position at Concordia College.**

one thing Correa wants to change, and Correa could be exiled as well. "Oh, God. I don't even want to think about that, but it could happen."

Though, she says it's just so shocking—she knows him, she's a good friend with him; he would write her English-language notes when he missed

her classes: "I am ashamed." She couldn't sleep the night when she heard an anchor on world news announce with a British accent the election results. And he's the president of Ecuador.

Morris can be reached at [morisle@mnstate.edu](mailto:morrisle@mnstate.edu).

## PROFITS, FROM FRONT —

"I probably give them two to three things a week for door prizes or fundraisers," Samson said. Student rebates, over the past three years, have averaged 8 to 10 percent on course materials purchased.

The dollar amount given back to students has totaled more than \$330,000 each year.

The store's net profit is put into a reserve fund and is used to pay for inventory. Textbooks are ordered in the summer for fall semester. The Bookstore has 30 days to pay the invoice. Revenue from summer purchases is not generated until fall and the reserve amount is used to pay these invoices.

Textbooks account for 76 percent of total sales at the store, and the largest percent of revenue is generated the first two



ANN TIEGS / THE ADVOCATE

**Students just finished buying books at the Bookstore for a new semester, which started Jan. 9.**

weeks of the semester. The remaining 24 percent of sales includes: clothing and apparel, imprinted gifts, supplies, computers and general book sales. The majority of general mer-

chandise sales occurs between October and December because of back-to-school, homecoming and the holidays.

According to Samson, a publisher receives about 75 per-

cent of the price on a new book. If a student purchases a used book for \$75 that originally cost \$100 and the bookstore buys it back from the student, the student is paid 55 percent of the new book price. The student will have paid \$20 to use the book for a semester.

"Half of our used books that we resell come from our students, and the other half comes from used-book wholesalers," Samson said. The Bookstore's rebate program rewards students for purchasing their books from the Bookstore.

About 40 percent of textbooks purchased for classes at MSUM each semester are not used in classes at MSUM the following semester.

Samson said, "If we're not using the book again, I have

no campus market to sell that book."

It is a used-book wholesaler who buys back these books from the students, not the MSUM Bookstore. These are the books that students are receiving the low-dollar amounts for. The wholesaler must find a market for these books at another university.

Samson said: "Having a brick and mortar store is a service to our students. You know, we allow financial aid charging and we try to do a good job. We do reserves to make it convenient for customers. Our store is dependent on our students for its business."

Tiegs can be reached at [a\\_l\\_tiegs@hotmail.com](mailto:a_l_tiegs@hotmail.com).

## FEES, FROM FRONT —



GREG LOCHNIKAR / THE ADVOCATE

The next payments, set aside to pay for both future debt and construction, are in a reserve at about \$1.5 million.

The amount needed to reach \$5.4 million, coming from businesses and individual contributions, is currently at about \$300,000, Crockett said.

A \$125,000 contribution recently came from Border States Electric. That company's CEO, Tammy Miller, is a 1982 alumna.

"We have had a very long good relationship with MSUM," Miller said. She said when she went to school, the only facility available for fit-

ness was Nemzek.

"We certainly didn't have much at all," Miller said. "I think the Wellness Center will be a very, very good improvement for the campus and the community."

Crockett said MSUM's Wellness Center is unique because the private fundraising allows the student fee to be significantly lower compared to similar wellness centers in the Upper Midwest.

NDSU students paid \$45 for their fitness facility until a couple years ago, when the rate jumped to \$80 because of an addition, said Gary Fisher,

NDSU Wellness Center director. Crockett said other schools pay comparably more.

The facility, which will be built along 14th Street and next to Ballard, will be 42,000 square feet and have volleyball and basketball courts, Wiese said.

The fee that students pay, even after the structure is built, will go to repaying MnSCU debt payments, operating the facility for things such as maintenance and employees, and funneling money into a surplus, Crockett said.

Morris can be reached at [morisle@mnstate.edu](mailto:morrisle@mnstate.edu).